United Nations SSC/17/L.1

South-South cooperation for development

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5 March 2012

Original: English

High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation
Seventeenth session
New York, 22-25 May 2012

Organizational meeting

(New York, 3 May 2012)

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda.
2. Election of the President of the seventeenth session.
3. Election of officers other than the President.
4. Adoption of the agenda of the seventeenth session and organization of work.

Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda of the organizational meeting

The Committee may wish to adopt the agenda of its organizational meeting.

2. Election of the President of the seventeenth session

Rule 10 of the rules of procedure provides for the election by the Committee of the President at the beginning of the session. Rule 40 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Committee decides otherwise in an election in which the number of candidates does not exceed the number of elective places to be filled.

3. Election of officers other than the President

Rule 10 of the rules of procedure of the Committee provides that, in addition to the President, the Committee shall elect three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur, and rule 40 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Committee decides otherwise in an election in which the number of candidates does not exceed the number of elective places to be filled.

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4. Adoption of the agenda of the seventeenth session and organization of work

The Committee may wish to adopt the agenda of its seventeenth session (SSC/17/L.2).

The Committee may further wish to decide on its organization of work on the basis of suggestions by the secretariat (SSC/17/L.3).

5. Documentation

Provisional agenda of the organizational meeting (SSC/17/L.1)

Provisional annotated agenda, including list of documents (SSC/17/L.2)

Note by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the adoption of the agenda and organization of work (SSC/17/L.3)

United Nations SSC/17/L.2

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Provisional annotated agenda and list of documents

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.
3. Actions arising from previous sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, notably at its sixteenth session in 2010.[1]
4. Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:
   (a) Implementation by the organizations of the United Nations development system of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;
   (b) Organizational, administrative and financial arrangements of the United Nations Development Programme in support of South-South cooperation.
5. Thematic discussion on the theme "Promoting socio-economic transformation through infrastructure development, employment creation, social cohesion and the transfer of appropriate technology using South-South cooperation".
6. Adoption of the report of the Working Group.
7. Approval of the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the Committee.

[1] At its meeting on 17 February 2012, the Bureau of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation recommended that, at its seventeenth session, the Committee should consider, under agenda item 3, the framework of operational guidelines for use by United Nations organizations and agencies in implementing the Nairobi outcome document because the intersessional meeting of the Committee that was to be held in 2011 to discuss the guidelines was not convened, owing to unforeseen circumstances.

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8. Other matters.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventeenth session.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

2. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation

The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will submit to the Committee a report on the progress made in implementing the tasks entrusted to the United Nations development system by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. The report is being submitted in accordance with recommendations 37 (a), (b) and (c) of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, and with Committee decision 13/1 (para. 15). The report, prepared by the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, provides an assessment of progress made in the implementation of South-South cooperation on the basis of the Special Unit's research and biennial progress reports submitted by the organizations of the United Nations development system, Governments of both developed and developing countries, and intergovernmental organizations on their activities to support and promote South-South cooperation. The report is prepared in response to paragraph 10 of Committee decision 7/5 concerning the submission to Committee sessions of a document containing an analysis of the information provided by Governments and organizations and agencies of the United Nations system with conclusions and recommendations, as appropriate.

In addition, the General Assembly, in its resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994, requested the Committee to consider new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries at its ninth session. The Committee considered the subject and endorsed the recommendations contained in the report on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC/9/3), which was later endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/119 of 20 December 1995. In accordance with paragraph 19 of Committee decision 11/1 B and decision 16/1, the report submitted by the Administrator to the Committee will also assess progress on the implementation of the new directions strategy and the Nairobi outcome document.

Documentation

Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (*Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I

Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (SSC/17/1)

3. **Actions arising from previous sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, notably at its sixteenth session in 2010**

Pursuant to decision 16/1 of the High-level Committee, a framework of operational guidelines on South-South cooperation will be presented for consideration and approval.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the framework of operational guidelines on South-South cooperation (SSC/17/3)

4. **Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme**

Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Committee decision 16/2, a report will be prepared on the implementation of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.

Documentation

Report on the implementation by the organizations of the United Nations development system of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (SSC/17/2, sect. I)

Report on the organizational, administrative and financial arrangements of the United Nations Development Programme in support of South-South cooperation (SSC/17/2, sect. II)

5. **Thematic discussion on the theme "Promoting socio-economic transformation through infrastructure development, employment creation, social cohesion and the transfer of appropriate technology using South-South cooperation"**

6. **Adoption of the report of the Working Group**

7. **Approval of the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the Committee**

8. **Other matters**

9. **Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventeenth session**

Annex

List of documents before the Committee at its seventeenth session

SSC/17/L.2	Provisional annotated agenda and list of documents
SSC/17/L.3	Note by the Administrator on the adoption of the agenda and organization of work
SSC/17/1	Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
SSC/17/2	Reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:
	(a) Implementation by the organizations of the United Nations development system of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (SSC/17/2, sect. I)
	(b) Organizational, administrative and financial arrangements of the United Nations Development Programme in support of South-South cooperation (SSC/17/2, sect. II)
SSC/17/3	Note by the Secretary-General on the framework of operational guidelines on South-South cooperation

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Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Note by the Administrator

1. The seventeenth session of the High-level Committee will follow the format and working methods introduced at the eleventh session of the Committee, held in May 1999, which include the following:

(a) A half-day organizational meeting to be held not later than three weeks before the biennial session of the Committee. The organizational meeting will elect the Bureau of the Committee and adopt the provisional agenda and programme of work;

(b) The duration of the general debate on agenda items 2 and 3 of the provisional agenda of the seventeenth session of the Committee (SSC/17/L.2) will be limited to three plenary meetings and will conclude at the end of the morning meeting of the second day of the session;

(i) A list of speakers will be opened at the headquarters of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (fax: 212-906-6429 or 212-906-6352; tel.: 212-906-5493; e-mail: southsouth@undp.org) on Monday, 30 April 2012, and closed at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 22 May 2012;

(ii) In accordance with the working methods of the Committee, statements in the general debate will be limited to 8 minutes for representatives of Member States and 6 minutes for other participants. In order to ensure that this limit is respected, the President will switch on the red light when the time limit is reached;

(iii) To save time, several States or groups of States sharing common positions may wish to consider presenting joint statements. Delegations wishing to have statements circulated to all participants are requested to provide 300 copies to the secretariat, which will arrange for their circulation in the language or languages received;

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(c) To make the debate interactive, the President may request the Director to respond, from time to time, as appropriate, to observations and suggestions made by delegations during the debate and will subsequently invite comments from the floor, either on the Director's response or on the issues raised in the statements of respective delegations;

(d) An additional feature of the Committee's deliberations is a thematic discussion, including presentations by various experts on the selected theme. This format is designed to stimulate interactive discussions among delegations and between delegations and the secretariat. The theme for the seventeenth session of the Committee is "Promoting socio-economic transformation through infrastructure development, employment creation, social cohesion and the transfer of appropriate technology using South-South cooperation". The recommendations emanating from the thematic discussion will also be incorporated into the report of the Committee and, as appropriate, reflected in its decisions;

(e) The biennial session will be scheduled prior to the annual session of the UNDP/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Board for a duration of four days. In conformity with the arrangements set out above, the general debate will be conducted in plenary meetings on 22 and 23 May 2012;

(f) In accordance with the views and suggestions expressed during the debate, the Working Group will meet as of the third working day of the session to elaborate draft decisions and recommendations.

Draft programme of work

2. The annex to the present note contains a draft programme of work for the session. All meetings will be scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In view of the limited time and services at the Committee's disposal, it is important that all meetings start promptly at the scheduled time. In an effort to make the best use of all services and in line with the practice of the General Assembly and other bodies, it is also suggested that, for the current session, the Committee waive the stipulation in rule 16 of its rules of procedure (TCDC/2/Rev.1) that the President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the States participating are present.

3. Rule 10 of the Committee's rules of procedure stipulates that its officers are the President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. The Working Group may wish to follow the practice of previous sessions whereby the Vice-President presiding over the Working Group would serve as both Chair and Rapporteur. Based on previous practice, and taking into account General Assembly decision 33/417 on the organization of the work of United Nations bodies, it is urged that the regional groups start consultations on the nomination of candidates to fill those elective posts well in advance of the organizational meeting, with a view to agreeing on a slate of candidates equal to the number of positions to be filled, thus allowing all officers of the Committee to be elected by acclamation at that meeting and dispensing with the requirement for secret balloting.

Annex

Draft programme of work

A. Plenary meetings

Tuesday 22 May 2012		*Wednesday 23 May 2012*		*Thursday 24 May 2012*		*Friday 25 May 2012*	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
Opening of the session (item 1) General debate and review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (item 2) Actions arising from previous sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation notably at its sixteenth session in 2010 (item 3) Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*continued*)	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*concluded*)	Thematic discussion on the theme "Promoting socio-economic transformation through infrastructure development, employment creation, social cohesion and the transfer of appropriate technology using South-South cooperation" (item 5)	—	—	—	Adoption of the report of the Working Group (item 6) Approval of the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the Committee (item 7) Other matters (item 8) Adoption of the report of the Committee on its seventeenth session (item 9)

Tuesday *22 May 2012*		*Wednesday* *23 May 2012*		*Thursday* *24 May 2012*		*Friday* *25 May 2012*	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
(a) Implementation by the organizations of the United Nations development system of the Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;							
(b) Organizational, administrative and financial arrangements of the United Nations Development Programme in support of South-South cooperation (item 4)							

B. Working Group

Thursday 24 May 2012		*Friday 25 May 2012*	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
Election of Rapporteur	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*continued*)	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*concluded*)	Plenary meeting
Organization of work	Draft decision(s)	Approval of all draft decisions	
Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (item 2)			
Consideration of a note by the Secretary-General on the framework of operational guidelines on South-South cooperation (item 3)			
Consideration of reports of the Administrator (item 4)			
Draft decision(s)			